

## **Assembly Bill No. 510**

### **CHAPTER 868**

An act to repeal and add Section 84511 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.

[Approved by Governor September 30, 2014. Filed with  
Secretary of State September 30, 2014.]

#### **LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

AB 510, Ammiano. Political Reform Act of 1974: advertisement disclosures.

The Political Reform Act of 1974 requires a committee that makes an expenditure of \$5,000 or more to an individual for his or her appearance in an advertisement to support or oppose the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot measure to file a report, as specified, and to include in the advertisement a statement regarding payment of the individual by the committee or its donors.

This bill would impose additional requirements on a committee that makes an expenditure of any amount to an individual for his or her appearance in an advertisement that supports or opposes the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot measure and that states or suggests that the individual is a member of an occupation that requires licensure, certification, or other specialized, documented training as a prerequisite to engage in that occupation. The bill would also require the committee to file a report that identifies, among other things, the individual's occupation. The bill would require the committee to include a specified disclosure statement in the advertisement indicating that the individuals are compensated spokespersons and not necessarily employed in the occupations portrayed, except as specified.

A violation of the act's provisions is punishable as a misdemeanor. By expanding the scope of an existing crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

The Political Reform Act of 1974, an initiative measure, provides that the Legislature may amend the act to further the act's purposes upon a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of each house and compliance with specified procedural requirements.

This bill would declare that it furthers the purposes of the act.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 84511 of the Government Code is repealed.

SEC. 2. Section 84511 is added to the Government Code, to read:

84511. (a) This section applies to a committee that does either of the following:

(1) Makes an expenditure of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more to an individual for his or her appearance in an advertisement that supports or opposes the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot measure.

(2) Makes an expenditure of any amount to an individual for his or her appearance in an advertisement that supports or opposes the qualification, passage, or defeat of a ballot measure and that states or suggests that the individual is a member of an occupation that requires licensure, certification, or other specialized, documented training as a prerequisite to engage in that occupation.

(b) A committee described in subdivision (a) shall file, within 10 days of the expenditure, a report that includes all of the following:

(1) An identification of the measure that is the subject of the advertisement.

(2) The date of the expenditure.

(3) The amount of the expenditure.

(4) The name of the recipient of the expenditure.

(5) For a committee described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), the occupation of the recipient of the expenditure.

(c) An advertisement paid for by a committee described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) shall include a disclosure statement stating “(spokesperson’s name) is being paid by this campaign or its donors” in highly visible roman font shown continuously if the advertisement consists of printed or televised material, or spoken in a clearly audible format if the advertisement is a radio broadcast or telephonic message.

(d) (1) An advertisement paid for by a committee described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) shall include a disclosure statement stating “Persons portraying members of an occupation in this advertisement are compensated spokespersons not necessarily employed in those occupations” in highly visible roman font shown continuously if the advertisement consists of printed or televised material, or spoken in a clearly audible format if the advertisement is a radio broadcast or telephonic message.

(2) A committee may omit the disclosure statement required by this subdivision if all of the following are satisfied with respect to each individual identified in the report filed pursuant to subdivision (b) for that advertisement:

(A) The occupation identified in the report is substantially similar to the occupation portrayed in the advertisement.

(B) The committee maintains credible documentation of the appropriate license, certification, or other training as evidence that the individual may engage in the occupation identified in the report and portrayed in the

advertisement and makes that documentation immediately available to the Commission upon request.

SEC. 3. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

SEC. 4. The Legislature finds and declares that this bill furthers the purposes of the Political Reform Act of 1974 within the meaning of subdivision (a) of Section 81012 of the Government Code.